

Project Title Cook Inlet Tribal Council IDA Program

Contact Information Molly Merrit-Durren

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AFI Grant Amount \$625,000

Nonfederal Support \$625,000

Project Period September 2003 – September 2008

Highlights Cook Inlet Tribal Council is offering 332 IDAs, with 228 for

homeownership, 73 for microenterprise, and 31 for postsecondary education. The match rate is \$5 to \$1, up to \$800 in participant savings over a 5-year period. A credit counselor works with each client, one-on-one, to set up a savings plan and provide counseling and credit repair assistance. Additional services include employment support, childcare, transportation, medical care, crisis management,

structured planning exercises, and peer support.

Target Population Alaska Natives or American Indians of the Municipality of

Anchorage, Alaska.

Grantee/Collaborative DescriptionCook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc. is a non-profit social service agency serving Alaska Natives. Matching funds are from

the Alaska Mental Health Trust. Wells Fargo Bank Alaska has waived account fees and is supporting financial education for IDA participants. The Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Alaska is teaching financial and budget management to participants. The Cook Inlet Housing Authority is teaching a course on home purchasing. Several small business groups are teaching microbusiness courses, and educational support groups are assisting with those pursuing a post-secondary education (e.g., educational

planning).